

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 3, line 17 through page 5, line 3, please replace with the following paragraphs:

The retaining device 10 is preferably configured to engage apertures 3031 in the retractor support member 14. Preferably, the retractor support 14 has an upper surface 32 that is substantially flat and is disposed in an horizontal position proximate the wound 16. The platform 28 of the retaining device 10 includes a correspondingly lower substantially flat surface 34 as best illustrated in FIG. 2. The platform 28 includes a plurality of resilient fingers 3433 as best illustrated in FIGS. 2 and 3 that extend into one of the apertures 3031 for securing the platform 28 to the support member 14. The embodiment 10 includes preferably four fingers as best illustrated in FIG. 3. A button member 36 extends into a bore 38 and moves within the bore 38 in the direction indicated by arrows 40 in FIG. 2. The button member 36 has an upper portion 40 extending above an upper surface 42 of the platform 28 such that the upper surface is engageable by a finger or thumb. At a lower portion 44, the button member 36 has a first reduced diameter section 46 that has a smaller diameter than the upper portion 40 and a second lower section of reduced diameter 48 that has a smaller diameter than the section 46 and an end portion 50 disposed below and adjacent to section 48 and having a diameter larger than the sections 46 and 48.

The resilient fingers 34 flex in a direction indicated by arrows 52. Each finger 34 includes an upper finger section 54 that when extended into the aperture 3031 is spaced therefrom to permit flexing. The fingers 34 also each have a lower section 56 that is set apart from the upper section 54 by an inwardly extending sloped shoulder 58 and an outwardly extending shoulder 60. The inwardly extending sloped shoulder 58 extends sufficiently inward such that the upper portion 40 of the button member 36 cannot be moved past inwardly facing surfaces 62 of the lower section 56 of the finger 34. The inwardly facing surfaces 62 of each of the fingers 34 collectively form a through hole 64 through which the lower portion 44 of the button member 36 is disposed and moves therethrough in a direction of arrow 41. The end portion 50 is positioned below the through hole 64 and has a diameter that is larger than the lower portion 44 and larger than the through hole 64 such that the end portion 50 acts as a stop when the button member is pushed upwardly in one of the directions indicated by arrow 40 and abuts against a lower surface

66 of each of the fingers 34.

In operation, to secure the device 10 to the support member 14, the fingers 34 are inserted into the aperture ~~30~~31 with the button member at its uppermost position, that is the end portion 50 abutting against the lower surfaces 66 of the fingers 34. To secure the device 10 to the support member 14, the button member is engaged manually at its upper end 40 and pushed in a downward direction as indicated by arrow 41. When moved in the downward direction, the end 40 and section 46 act against the inwardly extending sloped shoulders 58 of the fingers 34 thereby flexing the fingers in a radial outward direction as indicated by arrow 52. The outwardly flexing of the resilient fingers engages the outwardly extending shoulders 60 with a lower surface of the support member 14 securing the device 10 to the support member 14.

Page 5, lines 10 through 15, please replace with the following paragraph:

Additionally, to better guide the engagement of the device 10 with the support member 14, a pair of downwardly extending guide posts 70 extend downwardly from the platform 28 and engage a side surface 72 of the support member 14. The posts 70 preferably have beveled surfaces 74 to facilitate engagement of the side surface 72 of the support member 14. The guide post 70 also prevents rotational movement of the platform 28 about the aperture ~~30~~31.